UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/45/92
22 January 1991

Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 93

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/45/749)]

45/97. Human rights and scientific and technological developments

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1/ the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 2/ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 2/ and other relevant instruments, such as the Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons 3/ and the Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment, 4/

Recalling its resolution 33/53 of 14 December 1978, in which it requested the Commission on Human Rights to urge the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to undertake, as a matter of priority, a study of the question of the protection of those detained on the grounds of mental ill-health, with a view to formulating guidelines,

Recalling also its resolution 44/134 of 15 December 1989, in which it welcomed the establishment of the open-ended Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights to examine, revise and simplify as necessary the draft body of principles and guarantees submitted by the Sub-Commission,

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1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

2/ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

3/ Resolution 3447 (XXX).

4/ Resolution 43/173, annex.

READEX FICHE

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1990/38 of 6 March 1990 5/ and Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/37 of 25 May 1990, by which the Council authorized the Working Group to continue its work with a view to submitting the draft body of principles and guarantees to the Commission at its forty-seventh session,

1. Welcomes the significant progress made by the Working Group in the elaboration of a body of principles for the protection of persons with mental illness and for the improvement of mental health care, and urges the Group to complete its work expeditiously for submission to the Commission on Human Rights;

2. Requests the Commission on Human Rights to consider the subject at its forty-seventh session, in the light of the report and recommendations of the Working Group, with a view to submitting the draft principles to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council.

68th plenary meeting
14 December 1990

5/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 2 (E/1990/22), chap. II, sect. A.

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/45/749)]

45/93. Human rights and scientific and technological developments

The General Assembly,

Noting that scientific and technological progress is one of the decisive factors in the development of human society,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1/ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 2/ the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 2/ and the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, 3/

Conscious that it is only the creative genius of humankind that makes progress and the development of civilization possible in a peaceful environment and that human life must be recognized as supreme,

Recalling the fundamental importance of the right to life,

Bearing in mind also that the exchange and transfer of scientific and technological knowledge is one of the important ways to accelerate the social and economic development of the developing countries,

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1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

2/ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

3/ Resolution 2542 (XXIV).

1. Calls upon all States to make every effort to use the achievements of science and technology in order to promote peaceful social, economic and cultural development and progress;

2. Recalls the historic responsibility of the Governments of all countries of the world to preserve civilization and to ensure that everyone enjoys his or her inherent right to life, and calls upon them to do their utmost to assist in implementing the right to life through the adoption of appropriate measures at both the national and the international levels;

3. Also calls upon all States, appropriate United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to take the necessary measures to ensure that the results of scientific and technological progress and the material and intellectual potential of mankind are used for the benefit of mankind and for promoting and encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

4. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled "Human rights and scientific and technological developments".

68th plenary meeting
14 December 1990